
STAR&
LAMP
OF PI KAPPA PHI FRATERNITY
THE CHALLENGE WE MUST FACE.
WIN2018



Mark E. Timmes

the challenge and the opportunity of our work

For more than two decades, building a better Pi Kappa Phi has been my life's work. Since first moving to Charlotte in 1994 and becoming CEO, I've learned an incredible amount about the way students grow and develop during their time in college.

While there are many scholars and practitioners with more formal training and expertise in this area than me, as the Chief Executive Officer of a men's fraternity and the parent of college-aged children, I have asked—and been asked—a question many others have often pondered: "What were those students thinking?"

Despite increased scrutiny from college presidents, university administrators, parents and the media, we continue to see stories from across the country of fraternity men engaged in what would otherwise be seemingly unfathomable behavior to any reasonable adult. And in those moments, I am reminded of just how challenging it is to work with college students.

Our role as professional staff members and volunteers for a men's college fraternity in a co-curricular setting is to provide students with the education, training and mature adult guidance to make good choices, to understand the consequences of their choices, and then to hold the students accountable for the decisions they make.

But research in the field of developmental psychology teaches us that teens and young adults will never make decisions like those of us who are over 25 and whose prefrontal cortex—the rational, ethical, decision-making center of the brain—is fully developed.

It's not that men in this age group take more risks because they don't understand the dangers of their behavior. Instead, in situations where the risk can get students something they want, they will always value the reward more heavily than an older adult would. In fact, social rewards are perhaps the greatest currency a developing brain can be asked to weigh. This is the challenge and the opportunity of our work.

We are at a time when higher education faces a number of public health crises—alcohol abuse, the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of other controlled substances, hazing, sexual violence, student mental health—this is why there is no simple, "silver bullet" solution. This is why calls to "fix it" from both within the fraternal community and from those outside will take far more than decrees or dictates from on high. Adding new policies on top of existing ones will always have unintended consequences in practical application.

Prevention is a process, not a program

STAR & LAMP

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With the print and online STAR & LAMP, we accept materials on an ongoing basis.

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The STAR & LAMP is being sent to your address while your son is in college. Please feel free to read through the magazine as we hope it is a publication you will enjoy too.

If your son is no longer in college or is no longer living at home, please send his new contact information to the address or email address below.

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or a policy, and it's challenging work.

Prevention is a continued dialogue with students about the need to prioritize safety over popularity. It's about changing individual behavior and impacting the environments in which students make decisions. It's about meeting students where they are developmentally and not simply demanding they be better or do better.

Since 2003, Pi Kappa Phi has worked to tackle these difficult topics and challenging conversations through a comprehensive approach to prevention. At first, our focus was solely high-risk drinking behaviors and social event management policy education. Today, our menu of programs and resources has expanded to address not just alcohol and social event management, but drug abuse, hazing and sexual violence prevention, as well as the resources to support students' mental health as they grapple with the challenges of life away from home.

Every year, we continue to invest hundreds of thousands of dollars and hours—from both staff and dedicated volunteers—to provide our students with the tools they need to make good choices, and we work diligently to hold students accountable for the choices they make.

Pi Kappa Phi is not immune to tragedy. While our students may not be perfect, our strategy is grounded in proven principles of prevention—an approach I truly believe lends itself to the greatest likelihood of success in working with our students.

In the wake of the tragic passing of Andrew Coffey, Beta Eta (Florida State), this past fall, Pi Kappa Phi is doubling down on not only our concern for the safety and well-being of our members but on the education, training and mature adult guidance we provide to our students. We will continue engaging in conversations, day after day, to support our students in making the right choices in the moments when it counts the most.

Andrew's loss is a stark reminder that bad choices can lead to horrific consequences. While fun and fellowship are part of the fraternal experience, we can never allow them to supersede the safety, well-being, dignity and respect of our members, from the time they join until they are called to the Chapter Eternal.

This is the challenge and the opportunity of our work.

Yours in the brotherhood of Pi Kappa Phi,

Mark E. Timmes
Chief Executive Officer
MTIMMES@PIKAPP.ORG



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Photo Spotlight from Iota Upsilon (Florida Gulf Coast):
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SEARCH OUR SITE
A busy day for Camp Big Sky
Twenty-four student volunteers from Pi Kappa Phi Chapters at Western Illinois and Illinois State Universities were joined by their brothers
Read More »
Iota Kappa (Northern Colorado) Adopts-A-Spot on campus
Brothers at the Iota Kappa Chapter have recently taken the responsibility of maintaining and beautifying a section of campus
Iota Lambda (Quinnipiac) Brother Wows Crowd
"Music is important to me because in general, it gives people a really good outlet," Franklin said. "It's hard to
Omega (Purdue) hosts 7th Annual David Feltner 72-Hour Memorial Bike-A-Thon
Brothers from the Omega Chapter and 16 Purdue sororities rode
CHAPTER NEWS
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Beta Nu brother featured in GQ, gives tips for men's fashion
Travis White, Beta Nu (Houston) was featured in this month's GQ Magazine...
Winthrop's Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity Recognized as National Role Model
The North-American Interfraternity Conference recently honored Winthrop's Pi Kappa Phi organization...
September 11, 2017
Brother Braden Decker, Alpha Gamma (Oklahoma) receives kidney from Chapter Brother
Written by Justin Horne
After nine months of dialysis, Braden Decker now has a new kidney thanks to ... Hopkins.
"I'll never in my life be able to thank you enough. You are a hero. The last ... life on dialysis have easily been the hardest months of my life," Braden ...
"... I feel lucky in a way to have gone through this as it's shown me to ... everything in life that we often take for granted. Thank you to everyone ... of my journey so far."
Read more on Facebook.
Pi Kappa Phi member named general manager of campus radio
Written by PiKappNSU
ΠΚΦ
FOR THE LATEST SUCCESSES, PHOTOS AND BREAKING NEWS, FOLLOW PI KAPPA PHI AND THE ABILITY EXPERIENCE ON . . .
Theta Phi brothers win Greek Week, Greek Man of the Year
The Theta Phi chapter of Pi Kappa Phi at Louisiana Tech University recently biked 100 consecutive hours to raise awareness for The Ability Experience while also participating in events that co...

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2017 continued growth efforts

During the fall 2017 semester, Pi Kappa Phi chartered on four campuses.



Delta Zeta at Appalachian State

Re-founded: September 30, 2017

The Delta Zeta Chapter at Appalachian State University was rechartered, with Mr. Pi Kappa Phi and Past National President Phil Tappy, Lambda (Georgia), and Art Quickenton, Delta Zeta (Appalachian State), serving as installation officers. The Epsilon Rho (Lenoir-Ryhne) and Epsilon Eta (Winthrop) Chapters initiated 47 new founding fathers.

Becky Cooke, the Fraternity and Sorority Life Advisor, welcomed all to the local Masonic Lodge on behalf of the University and issued warm remarks. Phil delivering the keynote address, in which he challenged the chapter to continue to create and shape the legacy of Pi Kappa Phi at Appalachian State. Gary Sugg, Delta Zeta (Appalachian State), who has served as the chapter's advisor, was also in attendance along with other alumni.



Kappa Xi at DePaul

Founded: September 30, 2017

The Kappa Xi Chapter was installed by National Secretary Eric Almquist, Alpha Omicron (Iowa State), and National Chaplain Alan Duesterhaus, Zeta Epsilon (George Mason). The founding fathers were initiated into Pi Kappa Phi by teams from the Alpha Phi Chapter (IIT) and the Eta Beta Chapter (Indiana State). The chapter hosted a banquet at the Hotel Palomar in downtown Chicago.

Both the DePaul Fraternity & Sorority Life community and Pi Kappa Phi are extremely proud of the men of Kappa Xi and look forward to all that they will accomplish.



Kappa Omicron at UConn

Founded: October 14, 2017

National Chancellor James Smith, Alpha Eta (Samford), and Mr. Pi Kappa Phi and former National Council member Jim Krucher, Beta Alpha (NJIT), served as installation officers for the chartering of our newest chapter at the University of Connecticut. The Iota Lambda (Quinnipiac) and Theta Mu (UMass-Amherst) chapters were on hand to initiate the new founding members.

The chapter hosted their banquet at the Nathan Hale Inn. Brother Smith challenged the chapter to live the values of the student creed, especially lifelong commitment, and presented the chapter with their charter. Chapter Advisor Turner Stuart, Beta Phi (East Carolina), was proudly in attendance.



Beta Theta at Arizona

Re-founded: November 11, 2017

National President Tom Sullivan, Delta Omega (Texas A&M), and Beta Theta alumnus Jake Henderson served as installation officers for the rechartering of our chapter at the University of Arizona. The Theta Upsilon (Northern Arizona), Iota Eta (Embry Riddle), and Kappa Kappa (New Mexico) chapters initiated 71 founding fathers into the brotherhood.

Tom Sullivan delivered the keynote address, speaking on the impact of the fraternity on his life and challenged the group to always remember the impact they have on those around them.

The Arizona Fraternity & Sorority Life community and Pi Kappa Phi are extremely proud of the new founding fathers of the Beta Theta chapter and look forward to all that they will accomplish.

2018

SPRING



(EPSILON ALPHA)



(ALPHA MU)



(ALPHA RHO)



THIS MAP DETAILS the Pi Kappa Phi expansion plans through Fall 2018. For more information about expansion or starting a new chapter of Pi Kappa Phi, contact Director of Expansion & Growth James Maloney at JMALONEY@PIKAPP.ORG.

FALL



(CHI)





(DELTA SIGMA)



(TAU)



(ZETA PSI)

THE CHALLENGE WE MUST FACE.



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2017, 20-year-old Andrew Coffey, an associate member of the Beta Eta Chapter (Florida State), died following an off-campus social event.

On November 10, we announced the National Council's decision to revoke the charter of the Beta Eta Chapter after determining the students violated the Pi Kappa Phi social event management policies at the event on November 2. We once again darken the halls as another chapter of Pi Kappa Phi closes.

When Pi Kapp College for Chapter Officers convened this January, CEO Mark E. Timmes and National Council members traveled to share the following message with almost 1,800 students across five cities: Charlotte, N.C.; Pittsburgh; Birmingham, Ala.; Kansas City, Mo. and Los Angeles. ▸

Easy words to put down on paper. Obviously more difficult to live by.

"DO SOMETHING nice for someone every day that doesn't benefit you." In his 20 years of life, this was the greatest lesson Andrew Coffey shared with his parents.

"The world was simply a better place with him in it," Andrew's mother Sandy wrote in her brief letter to the Grand Jury—the men and women searching for answers to one question: Why?

Andrew Coffey died on November 3, 2017, just six days before his initiation into this brotherhood. His name and photo have been splashed across every major news outlet—from Good Morning America to USA Today to CNN—along with the pictures of Tim Piazza, Max Gruver, and Matthew Ellis. "The fraternity pledges who have died this year," read one headline.

Each article asks the same questions and offers the same critiques of fraternities. And every time a new story is posted, we take up arms to defend our fraternity experience.

We know that fraternity can be more than what we see in the headlines—that fraternity can be a tremendous opportunity to find friendship and family; to develop and grow as a leader.

And so, we sit in chapter rooms far from Penn State in State College or LSU in Baton Rouge or Florida State in Tallahassee or Texas State in San Marcos and assure ourselves that a tragedy like that could never happen to us. We sit just doors from our neighbors on campus and tell ourselves we're not as bad as them. We sit in rooms with our friends—shifting uncomfortably but never speaking up—because challenging the men we call our brothers may be unpopular.

"Real change will come only when students adopt a culture where safety, honesty, and transparency are prioritized." These are the words of the men and women who searched for answers in Andrew Coffey's death.

As we begin a new year, it is time for brutal honesty—time to take stock of every small act that leads to a larger impact; time to be honest with ourselves about our own shortcomings; and time to stand up for what is right rather doing what is merely convenient.

On December 19, the Grand Jury presented the world with the truth behind the brotherhood Andrew Coffey sought to join. Just hours before his

death, Andrew and the other associate members of the Beta Eta Chapter gathered off campus for "Big Brother Night"–an opportunity to celebrate with the men who would serve as their mentors and guides in Pi Kappa Phi; a chance to learn about family lineages and traditions.

As the evening began, each of the big brothers and associate members were explicitly warned: Nobody should be forced to consume alcohol.

And so, as big brothers bestowed their "family drinks" upon the newest members of their lineage, the scene was set. Each time they lifted the bottle, the night became a bit more hazy.

One associate member had a bottle of liquor taped to his hand. Many others vomited. All the while, their big brothers encouraged them to drink more. And as the associate members became more intoxicated, it was also their big brothers who were charged with their care.

Andrew Coffey's "family drink" was Wild Turkey 101 proof bourbon. And as was his family tradition, he drank it straight from the bottle.

When Andrew passed out, he was carried from place to place in the house off campus. After "sleeping" on a futon on the porch for some period of time, he was brought back inside to a room where people were playing pool. The last time anyone can remember Andrew being alive, he was heard "snoring loudly" on that couch in the living room. That's where his big brother left him when he went home for the night—unconscious on a couch in a living room.

Andrew Coffey—Drew or Dewey as he was known to those closest to him — was found the next morning on that couch, without a pulse, by one of his pledge brothers. He had died in a room full of people; people, who in their own words, knew him as, "so much more than a pledge. He was a friend and a neighbor, a childhood friend and a brother," the men at Florida State shared less than a week after Andrew's tragic death. "The six days that stood between him and the Ritual [of Initiation] didn't matter," they said. "He was a brother."

And so, Andrew did not just die in a room full of people. He died in a room full of men who called themselves his brothers.

Andrew died alone in a room full of brothers.

At the time of his autopsy, Andrew's BAC was 0.447. The medical examiner indicated that at its highest point the night before, Andrew's BAC would have been closer to 0.558—a dose of alcohol that was ultimately toxic for his heart and brain.

Reflecting on the loss of her son, Sandy Coffey wrote:

"Even as we are heartbroken, we are also troubled. Troubled that our son died alone in a room full of people. Troubled that no one stood up and said 'stop,' 'no,' 'enough.' Troubled that a group of young people saw someone in crisis and didn't act. And troubled that this continues to happen, again and again...."

"The Pi Kappa Phi Creed," she continued, "uses words like loyalty, responsibility, standards, [and] conduct."

And then she quoted: "'That their ideal chapter be made up of men who prepare themselves diligently to shoulder their full responsibility as citizens.'"

"Easy words to put down on paper. Obviously more difficult to live by," wrote Mrs. Coffey.

Easy words to put down on paper. Obviously more difficult to live by.

As we begin a new year and you begin your terms in office, that is the brutal honesty we must all face.

Over the next two days, we will ask you to think about the small acts that lead to larger impacts. We will create space for you to talk about overcoming fear. And we will challenge you to make this year different than any of our past.

If you truly believe that your chapter can become an ideal chapter and you are wholeheartedly committed to doing your share to make it so, then safety, honesty and transparency must become as synonymous with brotherhood as any other words we use in recruitment.

The task ahead of you is, without a doubt, tremendous; but we are all in this together. No matter what chapter you're from, what position you hold or when you joined this fraternity, this is what our sacred oath requires: A brotherhood built on safety, honesty and transparency.

Easy words to put down on paper. Obviously more difficult to live by. ★

ANDREW DIED ALONE IN A ROOM FULL OF BROTHERS.

THE UNCOMFORTABLE

BY JUDSON HORRAS,
NIC PRESIDENT & CEO



TRUTH

LIKE SO MANY, as I read the horrific details about the events surrounding Timothy Piazza's death, I found myself completely shaken. As a father, I struggle to imagine how Tim's parents must feel, especially since their loss was senseless and preventable. As an alumnus of Beta Theta Pi, I'm embarrassed and angry.

In my role as President and CEO of the North-American Interfraternity Conference, people are asking me, "How do we fix Penn State's fraternity culture?"

The reality is that substance abuse and hazing are not isolated to Penn State, and they are not isolated to fraternities. Research shows how many high school graduates come to college already having experience with both—meaning these problems are pervasive across thousands of high schools and hundreds of college campuses.

Because so many people—fraternity men, parents, alumni and campus administrators—know the value and benefits of a good fraternal experience and want to see it continue and evolve, they are coming to me with "we should" statements. Their motivation is right—we must do something. But we must also recognize that many of the industry's best prevention practices—substance-free housing, a live-in advisor, an anti-hazing policy, and strong educational programming—were already in place for this chapter at Penn State.

Clearly parents, alumni, campus administrators and national fraternity organizations must continue to maintain strong expectations and provide education that fosters health and safety for all students. When it comes to accountability, we must immediately respond with strong action to ensure unacceptable behavior isn't tolerated.

Yet, the uncomfortable truth is that the inherent limitation of our interventions is that they attempt to influence student behavior from a position of external power. Time and time again, we are humbled by the fact that our efforts are shallow unless students are committed to doing the right thing in the moment. While so many outstanding students do rise to the challenge of leadership, others fall short of their responsibility to effectively govern.

Therefore, we must pause to ask tough questions about the student experience before moving forward:

How do students embrace meaningful and safe rites of passage instead of dangerous "traditions," which many seek no matter how many times we warn against them?

How do students keep substance abuse and hazing out of their chapters when so many come to college having experienced these things in high school?

How do students craft positive experiences when they are so heavily influenced by popular media sources that glorify substance abuse and hazing?

How do students pay attention to their gut to do what is right—in this case, call 9-1-1—rather than be overcome by desires to belong and avoid getting in trouble?

How do students work on long-term change initiatives that require hardiness and perseverance when they have grown up in a world of instant gratification?

As parents, alumni, campus administrators and national fraternity organizations, we must also ask difficult questions of ourselves:

How do we work with students when their daily interactions are on technology platforms designed to disrupt traditional



Judson Horras, NIC President & CEO

forms of authority and accountability?

How do we have authentic conversations with students about responsible drinking when so many see the legal drinking age as a speed bump to their fun?

How do we approach students with firm expectations and accountability, while being humble and authentic about our own shortcomings?

How do we embrace increased levels of transparency, as sunlight is the best disinfectant?

How do we facilitate openness for students to seek help when they are constantly bombarded with declarations of zero tolerance with severe consequences?

How do we prioritize addressing substance abuse and hazing when higher education is equally challenged with important issues like mental health, sexual assault and inclusivity?

How do we foster the necessary stakeholder buy-in and collaboration toward significant change, requiring an investment of time, when society demands immediate results?

How do we remain faithful that the clear majority of good students will rise to the challenge of doing the right thing?

Such deep reflection isn't inaction—it's an important step that lays the foundation for transformational change. Fraternal leaders have been asking questions like these as we work together to address critical issues facing fraternity men.

Our Vision for Fraternity Communities, crafted by higher education and fraternal experts, provides a framework to prepare communities for change, foster humble, confident fraternity men, and address substance abuse. This blueprint is designed to meet students and campuses where they are, with the goal of bringing local stakeholders together to move their campus culture in the right direction. Our plan is to work with more than 20 campuses next year to implement these reforms, including Penn State, and more in the future.

At the core of fraternity is the notion that people united around a common purpose can do greater good together than on their own. This tragedy serves as a powerful call that we must redouble our commitment to work together to develop young men who are ready to lead their communities with empathy, respect and integrity. ★

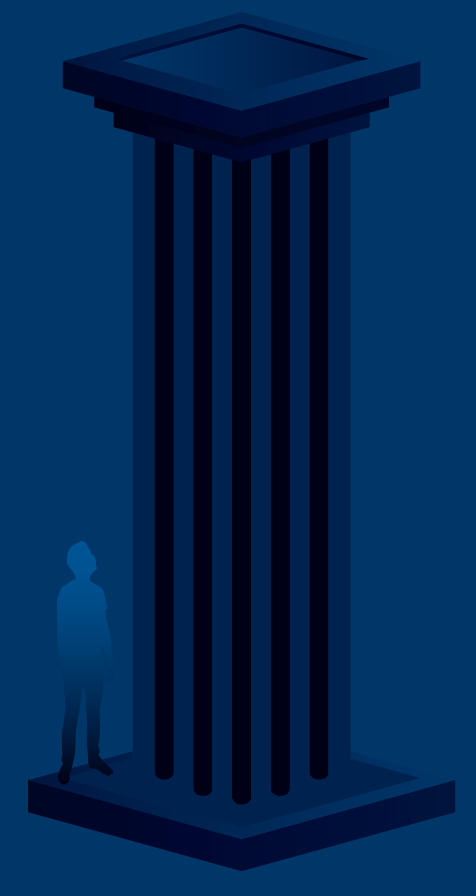
NIC ADOPTS ENHANCED HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS

I SHARED MY reflections about *The Uncomfortable Truth* of working with students today. Recent examples remind us that more rules, policies and enforcement by adults alone aren't enough to change campus culture. We must utilize the most powerful force for positive change—student leadership, but we need to take strong action to provide guidance and an effective framework for that leadership and governance.

This is why the 66 fraternities of the North-American Interfraternity Conference came together in 2017 to pass new, critical health and safety standards that will build upon fraternal prevention efforts and programs.

We had hoped to share this news under different circumstances, but now more than ever, it is important that members and campus partners are aware of the steps fraternities are taking to address key issues facing our communities.

Three important new measures are...



IMPLEMENTING MEDICAL GOOD SAMARITAN POLICIES

Nothing should stand in the way of students calling 911 when they or anyone else needs help. A Good Samaritan Policy, which many universities also have in place, encourages students to call for emergency services when someone needs medical attention. By September 1, 2018, each NIC member fraternity will adopt and implement a medical Good Samaritan policy.

RAISING THE BAR FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAMMING

Preventing alcohol abuse, hazing and sexual misconduct takes comprehensive efforts grounded in education. By establishing a more robust baseline, we can better ensure all fraternities are educating their chapters and members using best-practice programs around health and safety. By September 1, 2018, NIC member fraternities will implement annual baseline health and safety educational programs for all chapters. This enhances previous NIC health and safety education standards already in place.

ADDRESSING ALCOHOL ABUSE

Alcohol abuse is a serious public health problem on college campuses, and fraternities must provide greater leadership in this area. This is why fraternities came together to support a pilot program that empowers the NIC to work with campuses to achieve the following goals:

- **Remove dangerous hard alcohol from the fraternity experience.**
- **Provide a more balanced, academic-centered fraternity experience**
- **Foster safer social events for members and guests**

This pilot approach blends policy rooted in research, best practices in educational programming, enhanced procedures to make events safer and a commitment to measure the efficacy of these interventions through consistent assessment. Most critically, this approach also acknowledges that positive change happens when it's embraced by all stakeholders at the local level through collaboration and customization.

In fall 2017, the NIC identified pilot campuses, developed Social Safe procedures, and secured an assessment partner. In spring 2018, the NIC will work with a limited group of pilot campuses to implement these new standards and measure their effectiveness. Reach out if your campus would like to be considered for study.

We are all in this together, and I firmly believe that people united around a common purpose can do greater good together than on their own. We appreciate your continued partnership and look forward to working with you during the 2017-2018 school year and beyond. ★

More information available at:



EACH YEAR, Pi Kappa Phi recognizes chapters and individuals based on the Seven Objectives of Chapter Operation and additional categories. In Seven Objectives categories, chapters are honored by region. Awards are present each January during Pi Kapp College for Chapter Officers.



The archon of Alpha Epsilon (Florida) accepting the Executive Award with National Council members Glenn Aspinwall and James Smith

MOST IMPROVED IN GOVERNANCE
Psi (Cornell)
Iota (Georgia Tech)
Alpha Delta (Washington)
Delta Alpha (Virginia Tech)
Iota Rho (Western Illinois)

MOST OUTSTANDING GOVERNANCE
Epsilon Eta (Winthrop)
Theta Lambda (Missouri State)
Theta Sigma (Cal State - Long Beach)
Iota Phi (Loyola New Orleans)
Iota Chi (Ball State)

MOST IMPROVED IN GROWTH
Psi (Cornell)
Delta Tau (James Madison)
Zeta Sigma (UC - Davis)
Theta Kappa (Baylor)
Iota Zeta (Stephen F. Austin)

OUTSTANDING GROWTH AWARD
Alpha Eta (Samford)
Gamma Tau (North Texas)
Epsilon Eta (Winthrop)
Theta Mu (UMass - Amherst)
Iota Psi (Boise State)

OUTSTANDING RECRUITMENT
Alpha Omega (Oregon)
Beta Kappa (Georgia State)
Gamma Psi (Augusta)
Delta Chi (Kansas State)
Epsilon Omicron (Villanova)

EXECUTIVE AWARD
Recognizes chapters with the most initiated this past year.
Sigma (South Carolina)
Omega (Purdue)
Alpha Epsilon (Florida)
Zeta Phi (Colorado State)
Theta Xi (Arizona State)

MOST IMPROVED MEMBER EXPERIENCE
Xi (Roanoke)
Alpha Theta (Michigan State)
Beta Kappa (Georgia State)
Eta Theta (San Francisco)

OUTSTANDING MEMBER EXPERIENCE
Alpha Epsilon (Florida)
Delta Chi (Kansas State)
Epsilon Eta (Winthrop)
Eta Phi (UMBC)
Iota Iota (Cal Poly - Pomona)

MOST IMPROVED IN BRANDING & COMMUNICATIONS
Alpha Omega (Oregon)
Beta Kappa (Georgia State)
Epsilon Rho (Lenoire-Rhyne)
Theta Kappa (Baylor)
Iota Chi (Ball State)

OUTSTANDING BRANDING & COMMUNICATIONS
Omega (Purdue)
Epsilon Eta (Winthrop)
Epsilon Mu (Bradley)
Theta Sigma (Cal State - Long Beach)
Iota Phi (Loyola New Orleans)

CHAPTER WEBSITE OF THE YEAR
Eta Gamma (Colorado)

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR
Epsilon Theta (Seton Hall)

MOST IMPROVED IN SCHOLARSHIP
Xi (Roanoke)
Gamma Tau (North Texas)
Zeta Eta (South Florida)
Eta Kappa (SUNY Plattsburgh)
Iota Psi (Boise State)

OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP
Mu (Duke)
Alpha Gamma (Oklahoma)
Alpha Delta (Washington)
Theta Alpha (Southern Mississippi)
Iota Chi (Ball State)

W.E. EDINGTON HIGHEST OVERALL CHAPTER GPA
Mu (Duke)

MOST IMPROVED GPA
Gamma (UC - Berkeley)
Delta Lambda (UNC - Charlotte)
Zeta Eta (South Florida)
Eta Rho (Texas State)
Iota Tau (Rutgers)

MOST IMPROVED CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT
Iota (Georgia Tech)
Alpha Theta (Michigan State)
Delta Chi (Kansas State)
Epsilon Epsilon (UVA - Wise)
Zeta Rho (Cal State - Fullerton)

OUTSTANDING CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT
Alpha Gamma (Oklahoma)
Epsilon Eta (Winthrop)
Eta Phi (UMBC)
Theta Alpha (Southern Mississippi)
Kappa Theta (San Diego)

JOE SEWELL INTRAMURAL AWARD
Iota Alpha (Sacred Heart)

MOST IMPROVED IN SERVICE & PHILANTHROPY
Alpha Zeta (Oregon State)
Alpha Nu (Ohio State)
Alpha Omicron (Iowa State)
Delta Lambda (UNC - Charlotte)
Theta Phi (Louisiana Tech)

OUTSTANDING SERVICE & PHILANTHROPY
Epsilon Eta (Winthrop)
Zeta Phi (Colorado State)
Eta Upsilon (Miami - OH)
Theta Alpha (Southern Mississippi)
Theta Xi (Arizona State)

OUSTANDING PHILANTHROPY CHAIRMAN OF THE YEAR
Alex Cherches, Mu (Duke)
Sean McKeon, Eta Upsilon (Miami - OH)
Cameron Kenney, Theta Alpha (Southern Mississippi)
Troy Strickland, Kappa Nu (Sonoma State)
Eric Baze, Kappa Xi (DePaul)



Eta Chi Chapter at Texas Christian

SILVER SOCIETY
The Ability Experience 2017 total fundraising between $100 & $149.99 per man
Kappa (UNC - Chapel Hill)
Xi (Roanoke)
Alpha Iota (Auburn)
Alpha Tau (RPI)
Beta Gamma AC (Louisville)
Delta Upsilon (Pittsburgh)
Epsilon Tau AC (St. Joseph's)
Epsilon Rho (Lenoir-Rhyne)
Eta Zeta (Queens)
Theta Alpha (Southern Mississippi)
Theta Xi (Arizona State)

GOLD SOCIETY
The Ability Experience 2017 total fundraising between $150 & $249.99 per man
Mu (Duke)
Alpha Chi (Miami)
Gamma Phi (South Alabama)
Delta Lambda (UNC - Charlotte)
Epsilon Phi (UAB)
Eta Upsilon (Miami - OH)
Theta Kappa (Baylor)
Theta Tau (High Point)
Iota Zeta (Stephen F. Austin)
Kappa Lambda (Wisconsin - Madison)
Kappa Xi (DePaul)

PLATINUM SOCIETY
The Ability Experience 2017 total fundraising over $250 per man
Eta Chi (Texas Christian)

OUTSTANDING ABILITY EXPERIENCE EVENT
Alpha Gamma (Oklahoma)
Alpha Chi (Miami)
Delta Upsilon (Pittsburgh)
Theta Alpha (Southern Mississippi)
Iota Iota (Cal Poly - Pomona)

MOST OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER RELATIONSHIP
Alpha Gamma (Oklahoma)
Gamma Iota (LSU)
Theta Xi (Arizona State)
Iota Pi (Dayton)
Kappa Delta (Florida Atlantic)

LEADERSHIP THROUGH SERVICE AWARD
Recognizes the chapter with the most members participating in a national event through The Ability Experience
Eta Upsilon (Miami - OH)

THOMAS SAYRE CUP
Most per-man volunteer hours.
Eta Upsilon (Miami - OH)

DURWARD W. OWEN CUP
Most per-man fundraising.
Eta Chi (Texas Christian)

STAR OF HOPE
Recognizes the chapter with the best overall contribution to The Ability Experience.
Omega (Purdue)

OUTSTANDING ARCHON
Michael Freije, Kappa (UNC - Chapel Hill)
Nick Long, Eta Gamma (Colorado)
Drew Gonzalez, Eta Rho (Texas State)
Logan Timmis, Iota Nu (Mississippi State)
Mason Thomas, Iota Chi (Ball State)

ARCHON OF THE YEAR
Darin Soat, Alpha Nu (Ohio State)

THERON A. HOUSER MOST IMPROVED CHAPTER AWARD
Theta Chi (Ohio)

CHAMPION MASTER CHAPTERS
Iota (Georgia Tech)
Mu (Duke)
Alpha Gamma (Oklahoma)
Alpha Delta (Washington)
Beta Kappa (Georgia State)
Gamma Phi (South Alabama)
Delta Alpha (Virginia Tech)
Delta Zeta (Appalachian State)
Delta Chi (Kansas State)
Epsilon Eta (Winthrop)
Epsilon Mu (Bradley)
Zeta Sigma (UC - Davis)
Zeta Phi (Colorado State)
Eta Phi (UMBC)
Theta Kappa (Baylor)
Theta Lambda (Missouri State)
Theta Xi (Arizona State)
Theta Iota (Washington State)
Theta Rho (Western Michigan)
Theta Sigma (Cal State - Long Beach)
Theta Psi (RIT)
Iota Xi (Texas - Dallas)
Iota Phi (Loyola New Orleans)
Iota Chi (Ball State)
Iota Psi (Boise State)
Kappa Alpha (Case Western)
Kappa Delta (Florida Atlantic)
Kappa Omicron (Connecticut)

FOUNDERS' AWARDS
Mu (Duke)
Alpha Delta (Washington)
Epsilon Eta (Winthrop)
Zeta Phi (Colorado State)
Theta Lambda (Missouri State)
Theta Rho (Western Michigan)
Theta Sigma (Cal State - Long Beach)
Theta Psi (RIT)
Kappa Alpha (Case Western)
Kappa Delta (Florida Atlantic)
Kappa Omicron (Connecticut)



Alpha Delta Chapter at Washington



Eric J. Almquist

May 13, 1968 - February 18, 2018

NATIONAL SECRETARY Eric J. Almquist passed to the Chapter Eternal on February 18, 2018, while playing hockey in Chicago. He was 49.

Initiated into the Alpha Omicron Chapter at Iowa State University in 1987, Almquist cycled on the first Journey of Hope team in 1988. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and mass communication from Iowa State in 1990 and a Master of Business Administration in management, marketing, and international business from the University of South Florida in 1998.

Professionally, Almquist worked in commercial real estate, holding a number of positions with General Growth Properties, Inc., the owner, developer and manager of over 130 regional malls in 43 states, including Senior Vice President of Asset Management for the past five-and-a-half years.

Known for an ability to challenge others to be better and to find unique solutions to seemingly complex problems, Almquist's leadership left an indelible mark on Pi Kappa Phi. Prior to joining the National Council in 2014 as National Historian, Almquist served on the Pi Kappa Phi Properties Board of Directors for eight years, holding the position of Vice President of the Stephen DePalma Housing Assistant Infrastructure Loan Fund (2006-2012) and chairman (2012-2014). He was instrumental in creating the Housing Investment Fund during the 53rd Supreme Chapter in 2012, advancing the goal of Pi Kappa Phi Properties to provide quality, local homes for all chapters of the Fraternity. Over the past five years, Pi Kappa Phi Properties has leveraged the fund to acquire 10 new chapter houses on campuses across the country. Almquist also served on The Ability Experience Board of Directors for 10 years, including a term as Chairman from 2004 to 2006.

"He was a man who led in big ways, but also in small moments and through simple choices," said National President Thomas B. Sullivan, Delta Omega (Texas A&M). "Eric truly embraced his role as a leader, put service before self and improved the world around him."

Almquist received a Merit Citation from the 54th Supreme Chapter in recognition of his continued leadership, service and dedication to the Fraternity.

"Pi Kappa Phi has been blessed with many great leaders," said Chief Executive Officer Mark E. Timmes. "Eric exemplified all of the virtues of a Pi Kappa Phi and throughout his life worked perpetually for its benefit. His gentle demeanor and leadership style complemented a deep passion for the success of the fraternity and the meaningful experience it provides to our students and alumni."

Beyond the fraternity, Almquist loved his family, his alma mater, baseball, hockey and travel. He visited every MLB ballpark in the United States, and it was a family tradition to visit a different ballpark for opening day every year. Those closest with him knew Almquist as a mentor, friend and sounding board. Above all else, he was an incredible husband, father and fraternity man.

Almquist is survived by his wife Paula and their daughter Caroline.

"Today our fraternity grieves," added Sullivan. "Eric was a true and faithful brother of Pi Kappa Phi; an example for us all." ★



CONNECT WITH THE PI KAPP NETWORK

WE OFTEN see networking, in particular career networking, as a key factor in joining and continuing to be involved in the fraternity.

This past fall, Pi Kappa Phi launched Pi Kapp Connect powered by CampusTap, an online mentoring platform that connects members for one-on-one career conversations. Pi Kapp Connect provides an easy way to give back and the ability to share your experience on your time table. The platform also protects the privacy of both parties as all communication is routed through their system. Most importantly, it provides true impact as advisees gain valuable insight and feedback from alumni mentors.

Whether you are interested in finding a mentor or becoming one, Pi Kapp Connect enables you to easily connect with the powerful network of Pi Kappa Phi students and alumni. We challenge you to create an account. ★

More information available at:









How this Miami fraternity spends its Fridays might surprise you

BY MICHAEL D. CLARK

IT'S A LATE FRIDAY afternoon, and some Miami University [Ohio] fraternity members are looking for a party. They know just where to go.

They hit up a place that has become their usual fun spot: the Hamilton Schools' Bridgeport Elementary multiple disabilities class, which this particular Friday in December had its students decorating a Christmas tree.

It's "Fraternity Friday" at the Butler County school, and the dozen Miami Pi Kappa Phi members are greeted with loving hugs and big smiles of recognition and appreciation in the late afternoon as they walk into the school's cafeteria and stage area.

"This has been such an amazing program for everyone involved and really highlights the character of these tremendous young men," said Angela Henson, physical therapist for Hamilton Schools.

"The students in the multiple disabilities program look forward to Fraternity Friday each week. It is the highlight of the week for many of our students who benefit from the time spent with positive, caring male role models.

"This began four years ago, as part of their fraternity's philanthropy outreach program to assist individuals with disabilities within the community."

The program has drawn local praise and national attention that resulted in a November award of a $2,500 grant from The Ability Experience, the philanthropy arm of Pi Kappa Phi, for the fraternity to pass on to the Bridgeport special needs student program.

Some feel that the philanthropic works of Miami's fraternities and sororities—and those throughout America's other universities—are too rarely publicized, but community service is a foundational aspect of the college Greek system, students said.

Spencer Haworth, regional director of chapter services of The Ability Experience, said the Miami University and Hamilton Schools partnership program benefits everyone "by allowing the men of Pi Kappa Phi into your doors and hearts, you are helping us prepare the next generation of servant leaders, advocates and supporters for the disability community."

Those lofty aspirations become heartfelt reality when those students bond with the young buddies.

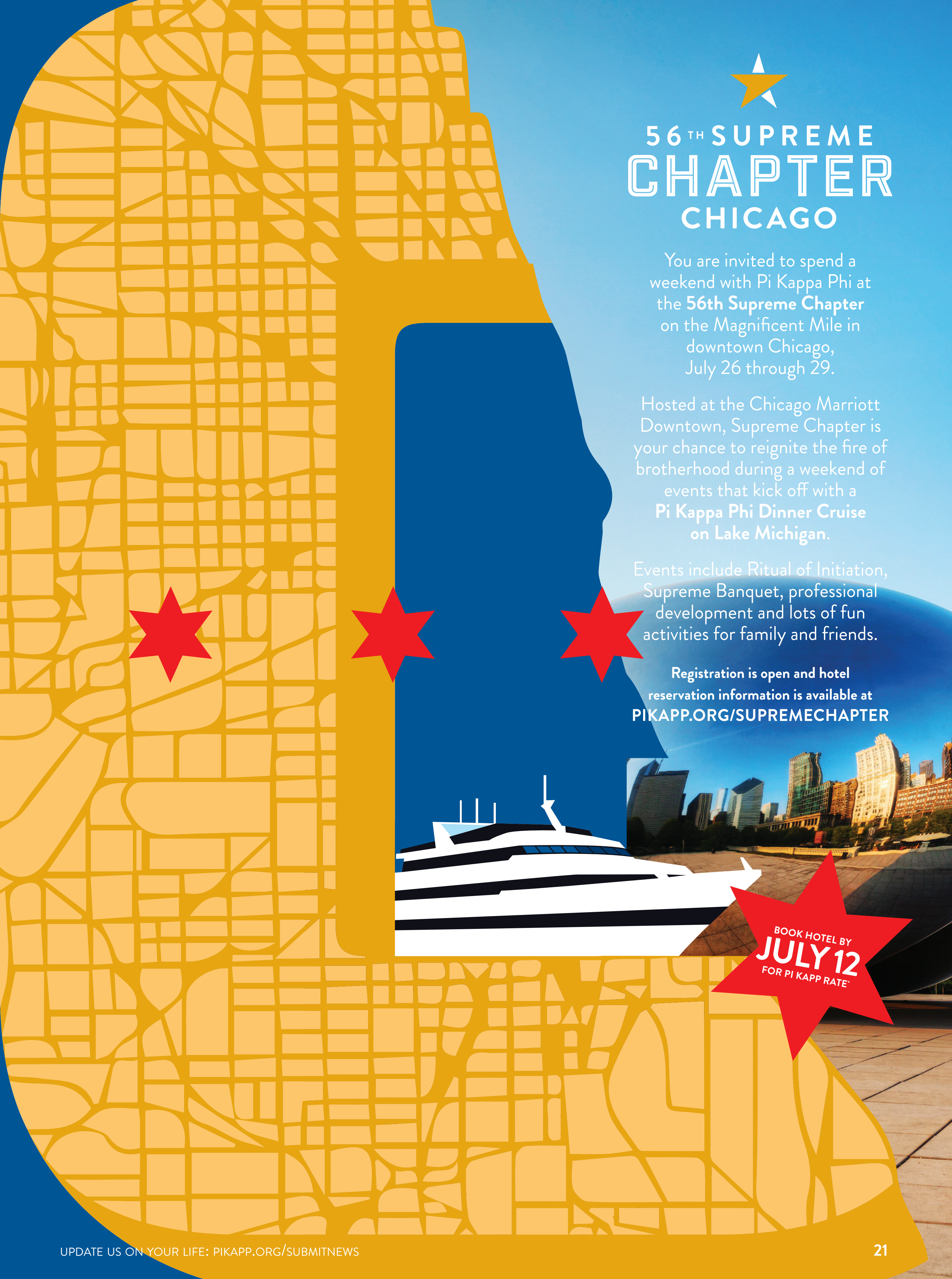
"A fundamental goal of The Ability Experience is to enrich the lives of people with disabilities through shared experiences with our members," said Sean McKeon, a Miami junior and member of Pi Kappa Phi.

"We get to spend time with the kids, and they enrich our lives by filling our lives with joy every Friday when we come here. When we come here, we honestly have fun, and this is great time for us to have fun with a bunch of great kids and to bond as (fraternity) brothers."

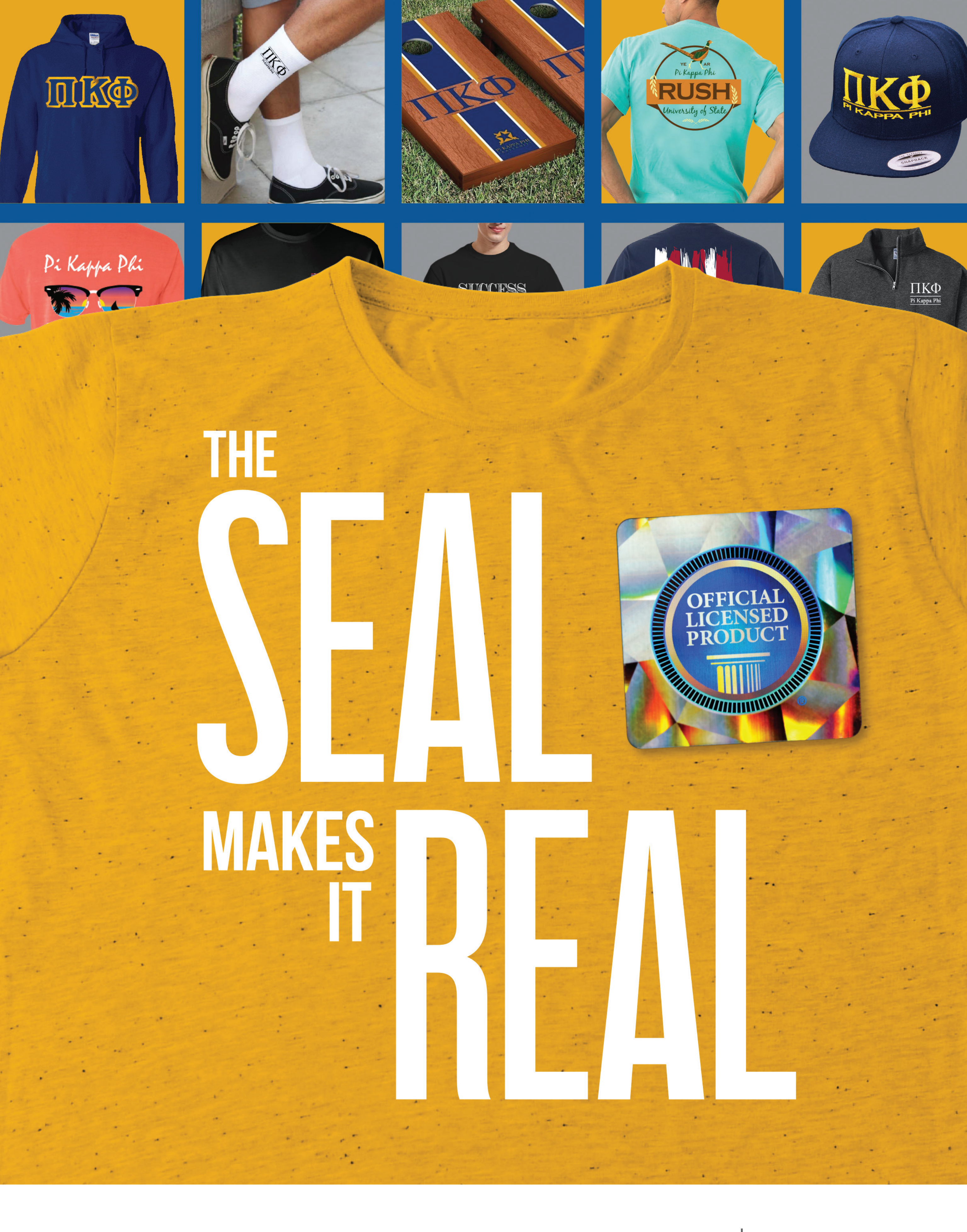
Henson smiled as she watched the young Miami men entertain the kids.

"This is often the highlight of the kids' day," she said. "This is so special and you see how the kids run into the room and leap into their arms. The boys are very positive role models, and they are very caring young men." ★

(Article provided by Cox Media Group Ohio/The JournalNews; Photos by TvHamilton)



56TH SUPREME
CHAPTER
CHICAGO
You are invited to spend a weekend with Pi Kappa Phi at the **56th Supreme Chapter** on the Magnificent Mile in downtown Chicago, July 26 through 29.
Hosted at the Chicago Marriott Downtown, Supreme Chapter is your chance to reignite the fire of brotherhood during a weekend of events that kick off with a **Pi Kappa Phi Dinner Cruise on Lake Michigan**.
Events include Ritual of Initiation, Supreme Banquet, professional development and lots of fun activities for family and friends.
Registration is open and hotel reservation information is available at PIKAPP.ORG/SUPREMECHAPTER
BOOK HOTEL BY
JULY 12
FOR PI KAPP RATE*


ΠΚΦ
Pi Kappa Phi
RUSH
University of State
ΠΚΦ
PI KAPPA PHI
Pi Kappa Phi
ΠΚΦ
Pi Kappa Phi
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SEAL
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REAL
OFFICIAL
LICENSED
PRODUCT

THETA THETA (IOWA)

In fall 2016, the Theta Theta (Iowa) Housing Corporation and undergraduate chapter were notified that after 12 years, Acacia Fraternity would be reoccupying the property at 202 Ellis Avenue starting in fall 2017. Pi Kappa Phi Properties identified a former fraternity property, presently being used as a boarding house, in the historic "Fraternity Circle" adjacent to campus, one block away from the current property. Built in 1925, the prospective property at 332 Ellis Avenue served as the Phi Epsilon Pi fraternity house until about 1970 when they merged with Zeta Beta Tau.

Pi Kappa Phi Properties worked with the owner to completely renovate the structure before purchasing the property. Other requirements included purchasing an adjacent alley owned by the city and securing proper zoning. Pi Kappa Phi Properties purchased the property utilizing funds raised by the Theta Theta Housing Corporation and Pi Kappa Phi Properties' Housing Investment Fund. The renovations were completed in time for the chapter's occupancy and fall recruitment schedule. The property sleeps 18 along with a graduate student house director. ★



IOTA RHO (WESTERN ILLINOIS)

In May 2017, Pi Kappa Phi Properties completed the acquisition of a chapter house for Iota Rho Chapter. The chapter had utilized a number of housing options since chartering in 2012. In spring 2017, the former Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity house became available and Pi Kappa Phi Properties worked closely with the men of Iota Rho to secure the number of men needed to occupy the property.

During the summer, a significant amount of renovations to the property were completed, such as a new fire sprinkler system, new flooring throughout the first and second floors, new lighting, new windows, an all-new heating system and a set of back-lit Pi Kappa Phi letters on the front of the house. Over Homecoming Weekend, the chapter worked to upgrade the social deck space on the back the house with materials provided by Pi Kappa Phi Properties, while young alumni worked to beautify the front of the house and restore the two sand volleyball courts on the property. The property sleeps 20 along with a graduate student house director. ★



FIND YOUR GREATNESS

CHOOSE YOUR CHALLENGE





"I can honestly say that as someone who has finished many, many races, the experience of pushing an enabled athlete created a very different, very fulfilling sense of accomplishment at the finish. To anybody who has ever even thought about it, I would wholeheartedly say do it!"

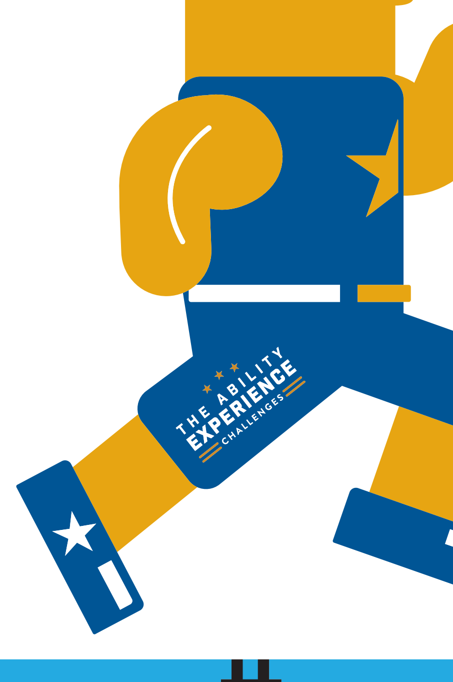
– **COREY DILLON,**
Zeta Phi (Colorado State)













2018 SCHEDULE

PUBLIX GEORGIA MARATHON
Atlanta, GA | March 18

HIKE IT UP BLUE
Luray, VA | April 21

CHARLOTTE RACEFEST
Charlotte, NC | April 14

COLFAX MARATHON
Denver, CO | May 19-20

BIKE THE DRIVE
Chicago, IL | May 27

HUMANA ROCK 'N' ROLL CHICAGO
Chicago, IL | July 21-22

MARINE CORPS MARATHON
Washington, DC | October 28

ROCK 'N' ROLL LAS VEGAS
Las Vegas, NV | November 10-11

GREATNESS is wherever someone is trying to find it. It is not about finishing the race in two hours or six hours, it's about finishing. We are all capable of greatness. Come find your greatness while helping others find theirs. Ability Experience Challenge events bring people together to celebrate the abilities of all people through recreational endurance activities like a 5k, half marathon or marathon. Athletes with and without disabilities team up together to overcome the challenges they face during an event and get across the finish line as a team. Whether participants walk, run or roll, we are all working together to promote more inclusive communities. Funds raised through The Ability Experience Challenges provide opportunities for Enabled Athletes (athletes with disabilities) to experience these events alongside their new friends and teammates!

Ability Experience Challenge events are open to anyone and everyone, regardless of previous athletic experience or perceived ability level. All athletes will be supported from the moment they sign up for an event to the moment they cross their finish line. Whatever the Challenge you choose, you can do it; we can help! For more information or to join #TeamABEX, please visit teamabex.org or contact Andrew Matznick at CHALLENGES@ABILITYEXPERIENCE.ORG. ★

TEAMABEX.ORG



A snapshot of Ability Experience Challenges

2016

$60,000 raised

9 enabled athletes

74 participants completed an ABEX Challenge

4 Signature Events held across the country

2017

$130,000 raised

20 enabled athletes

43 Pi Alphas completed a cycling event

152 participants completed an ABEX Challenge

9 Pi Alphas organized a self-supported cycling event across Europe

8 Signature Events Held across the country

PARTNERS:

KYLE PEASE FOUNDATION

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

ABILITY FIRST LONG BEACH

TOPSOCCER OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

30 Pi Alphas help celebrate the 40th Anniversary with a 3-day ride-along from Richmond to Washington, DC

MAKE YOUR MARK

OUR BROTHERS, THEIR FUTURE, YOUR LEGACY





THE STRATEGIC vision and planning of the Pi Kappa Phi Foundation, The Ability Experience and the National Council of Pi Kappa Phi have aligned around the success of the now completed Common Loyalty capital campaign and the recently announced Make Your Mark campaign that will build upon that success.

The Foundation's aligned role within the four entities of Pi Kappa Phi is to steward the long-term resources that keep our fraternity, and our family, strong.

The objective of this campaign is to educate, support and encourage estate planning to benefit the young men who follow us, and to identify known deferred gifts that are at all times equal to our current foundation assets (approximately $12 million).

Planned and estate gifts are sought in addition to annual giving and will be segregated within a Make Your Mark fund from which grants will eventually be made in the following areas of National Council, Foundation and The Ability Experience programming:

Leadership Development	$6,000,000
Academic Recognition	$2,000,000
Service Learning	$4,000,000

For more information about making a planned gift or to make your commitment, please contact Foundation Director Chris Conner at cconner@pikapp.org or (704) 504-0888.

2017 MR. PI KAPPA PHI

STEVE RYDER

STEVE RYDER became a brother of Gamma (UC - Berkeley) in 1971 and went on to serve as its treasurer. He became a director of Gamma Housing Corporation in 1973, serving as treasurer, president and assistant secretary. In 1979, Ryder became a director of the revived Pi Kappa Phi Alumni Association, serving as treasurer, president and assistant secretary. From 1981 to 1996, Ryder served as a director of Pi Kappa Phi of University of Southern California Housing Corporation, also serving as assistant secretary and assistant treasurer. He continued to work with housing corporations for chapters at UCLA, UC-Irvine, UC-San Diego, Sacramento State and Cal State-Fullerton during their incorporations. On the national level, he has served Pi Kappa Phi Properties as executive committee member and treasurer from 1980 to 1983, and as area governor from 1983 to 1986.

Professionally, Ryder worked in the fields of lending and investments for commercial and industrial real estate from 1977 to 1992 with Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, Westinghouse Credit Corporation and Imperial Bank. He worked in valuation services for commercial and industrial real estate from 1992 to 2011 with Joseph J. Blake and Associates and Integra Realty Resources. He is currently retired.

If you could start college again tomorrow, what would you do differently? Why?

Most of the broader decisions I made back when I began college would be unchanged. Some of the secondary decisions I would handle differently. I've become a different person. When I began college, I had very little experience. That has changed over the years. If I were placed in the same situations today the decisions for some choices would have to be different.

What have been your two or three most meaningful Pi Kappa Phi experiences?

The first was having been a participant during Gamma Chapter's growth period, beginning in 1972. Gamma Chapter's success in the early 1970's had several unintended consequences. First, the fraternity system as a whole at Berkeley began to improve, after years of decline. In part, that improvement took place through the greater visibility Gamma Chapter's recruitment advertising provided. Second, the fraternity system improved to the point that another fraternity, whose chapter house we had been leasing, decided to recolonize. Third, as a result of their recolonization, we found that the chapter house lease was not to be renewed in 1974. Gamma Chapter faced a housing crisis.

The second most meaningful experience was in having been a part of acquiring permanent housing for the chapter in 1974, under some urgent conditions.

What qualities do you look for in the people with whom you surround yourself, personally or professionally?

Reliability, consistency and adaptability.

What advice would you give to current undergrads or young alumni?

Fraternity is not simply a forum for social activity, nor a form of student housing, nor a collection of close friends. Perhaps its greatest value is the opportunity for personal development. That aspect is intangible and seems often to be the least appreciated by many. In my own case, I had near-zero experience in a number of areas when I first became a member. My personal improvement was a slow process. That was because I had a greater distance to travel than most. Fortunately, the fraternity provides an opportunity to be involved in different ways over time. After nearly fifty years of involvement, I have become a different person.

What is some of the most important advice that you've personally received in your life?

Life is what we make it.



JANE FINNEY has been named the 2017 recipient of the Connie Owen Order of the Rose Award, which honors spouses of members who have themselves exemplified sustained involvement and shown an uncommon dedication to the fraternity.

Jane is both a wife to Bill Finney, Gamma Xi (Georgia Southwestern), and mother to Scott Finney, Alpha Iota (Auburn). Her compassion has been on display the countless times she has hosted staff as they traveled through Atlanta and Memphis, and has assisted many undergraduate members at the Iota, Alpha Iota and Gamma Delta chapters.

Additionally, Jane helped create the Auburn Parents Club and has served as its co-president. In 2003, she was named Parent of the Year by the Auburn Alumni Chapter Association.

Jane has been a welcome guest at several Supreme Chapters and is a great addition to the Nu Phi Spouses' and Guests' Banquet each year.

We are forever thankful to spouses like Jane Finney who have given so much of their time and thought to our fraternity. ★

Anything else you'd like to share with our alumni?

I enjoyed seeing many people from many different chapters at the Summer Alumni Reunion in San Diego this past July. Some were new acquaintances while others were reunions with members I hadn't seen in decades. ★

YOU ARE ALWAYS WEARING YOUR LETTERS

BY T.J. SULLIVAN

YOU'RE INTERESTED in joining our fraternity or sorority? We'd love to have you. You're the type of person we look for: committed, enthusiastic, a leader. We think you'll do great things here, and we hope that we'll open some doors for you. You will make lifelong friendships, and hopefully, you'll be the type of person whose positive impact will be felt here for many years.

THIS IS THE START OF SOMETHING REALLY COOL.

We know you have your reasons for joining, and we also know that the reasons you'll stay will be entirely different. Trust us on that one. People tend to join for the image, the props and the social stuff. They stay around for the friendships and because they find a place where they can impact the lives of others. It's a family. We know this. You will, too.

Soon, these letters will be yours. But, there's one lesson that we need to impress upon you before you sign your name on the dotted line, pay that first fee and get that first t-shirt. It's the single most important thing we're going to ask of you, so you need to listen and understand it, now, before you say "yes."

It's the one most important thing that any fraternity or sorority can impress upon its new members. Truly, our survival as an organization on this campus, and nationwide, depends on you understanding this one simple lesson and taking it to heart.

It's more important than our history, our traditions, our structure or our rules. If you don't understand this most fundamental lesson, then none of the other stuff will matter. If you don't get this one "golden rule of fraternity," then your son or daughter won't have this kind of organization to join someday, and all of this will just be a fuzzy memory.

HERE IT IS. READY?

From the moment you say yes to this organization, you are always wearing your letters. I'm going to repeat it.

FROM THE MOMENT YOU SAY YES TO THIS ORGANIZATION, YOU ARE ALWAYS WEARING YOUR LETTERS.

We're not talking about hoodies or hats made in our colors. We're not talking about a tattoo on your ankle, some party favor or a badge you wear on your dress shirt.

What we mean is that when you say yes to lifetime membership in this group, everything you say, do and represent from that moment forward is a direct reflection on this group, your brothers or sisters and the thousands of members who have come before you. Everything you put out to the world is a direct reflection on what we stand for. Every decision, every achievement, every mistake you make happens to all of us from this point forward.

When you go to the grocery store, you represent us. If you fall asleep in class or earn a weak grade, you represent us. When you drive down the road and slow down so a pedestrian can cross the street, you represent us.

When you turn 21 and go out to celebrate, you represent us. When you become a leader of another campus organization, you represent us. When you insult someone or talk badly about another group, you represent us. When you break up with someone and make decisions about how you behave during that difficult time, you represent us. When you go on Spring Break, you represent us.

When you go home and sit at your mother's dining room table, you represent us. When you get a job and go to work for a company or organization, you represent us. When you commit your life to that special person, someday, you represent us.

You are always wearing your letters From this day forward, always. Every day, in every situation. They never come off.

It's as if you tattooed these letters on your forehead. It doesn't matter if you're wearing an intramural jersey with our name on it, or a business suit at an interview. You have to assume that every person you meet will form a permanent opinion about fraternities and sororities—good or bad—based on your behavior.

EVERY GOOD THING YOU DO BUILDS US UP. EVERY DUMB THING YOU DO TEARS US DOWN.

We live in a time when the actions of one man or one woman can kill a group like ours. One person who acts in a way that is inconsistent with our shared values can end 100 years of tradition and pride. One choice you make on a Friday night can take away everything that generations of men and women have worked to build.

All the stuff you see that belongs to us can be boxed up or thrown out, because of the choices you make.

If this seems a little intense, that's good—because it's serious. If it sounds like too much responsibility, or if you don't think you can behave in a way that reflects well on us at all times, then walk away now.

Do us the favor. We won't think less of you. In fact, we'll thank you. This sort of commitment isn't for everybody.

But, don't say yes unless you understand. We're not asking you to give up anything. We aren't asking you to become something you aren't. We're asking you to become something more.

We're inviting you to become part of a group whose members make a promise to take care of each other, every day. We're asking you to become the very best version of you that you can be. We're asking you to take a leap of maturity and to go to that place where you're the same, honorable, dignified person on Saturday night as you are on Tuesday morning.

It's a big deal, and not everyone can do it. Forget everything you've heard up to this point. Forget how much you might want this, or how much we might want to bring you into the group. Just clear your mind and ask yourself one question.

ARE YOU READY TO NEVER TAKE THEM OFF?

Because when you say yes, you're not just putting letters on a sweatshirt. You're putting them in your heart. You're forever stamping your identity with them. Everything you are, from this point on, becomes who we are.

You will make mistakes, and brothers or sisters will remind you of your commitment. There will be times where you will see other members forgetting their promise, and you'll need to remind them. That's part of this whole "fraternity" and "sorority" thing. We work together to make ourselves better people who stand for something. We carry each other. We matter to one another.

If we're truly living up to our shared values, then we'll make you a better person. If you're doing everything right, then you will make us a better organization.

So, please think about it. Take it seriously. Because if you say yes, these letters belong to you just as surely as they belong to our founders. If you say yes, these letters become your responsibility forever.

IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT? ★





Brandon Dill, Epsilon Eta (Winthrop), at the Swiss Alps

PI KAPPA PHI FRATERNITY
2015 Ayrsley Town Boulevard, Suite 200
Charlotte, NC 28273

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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